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## **Kingsley and St. Francis gridiron champs honored by Sen. Allen and Senate**

**LANSING** – State Sen. Jason Allen, R-Traverse City, welcomed the Traverse City St. Francis and Kingsley High School state champion football teams and their coaches to the Senate on Tuesday, Dec. 13.

Both the Kingsley football team and head coach Tim Wooer, and the Traverse City St. Francis team and head coach Josh Sellers were invited to the Senate floor for a special presentation. They were honored before the full Senate with tributes recognizing their accomplishments and remarks from local legislators.

“I am truly pleased to recognize both teams from Grand Traverse County as they visit the Senate,” Allen said. “It is an extremely rare event to honor two teams from Grand Traverse. Their efforts, dedication and spirit won them state championships and I am extremely proud.”

The Kingsley Stags, who finished with a 13-1 record, beat Monroe St. Mary Catholic Central 31-21 to win the Division 6 state championship.

“This is the first state championship for Kingsley,” Wooer said. “We lost our opening game and it tested our character. We have a great group of seniors with a great work ethic. It’s certainly nice to be thought of and for the lawmakers to take time out of their busy schedules to recognize us. This is a once-in-a-lifetime experience and it is appreciated.”

The Gladiators also finished with a record of 13-1 and clinched their second Division 7 state championship after defeating Unionville-Sebewaing 28-14.

“This is the first time we’ve been here in Lansing after winning a title,” Sellers said. “It is a great honor to be here as a guest of Senator Allen. The St. Francis football team is full of over-achievers. They believed in what they were doing and they set their goals high. We have a great group of kids with great senior leaders.”

Each state senator is allowed one special presentation on the floor of the Senate a year. Visitors are only allowed on the floor of the Senate as the special guest of a senator.

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Editor's note: Photos of Sen. Jason Allen with the Kingsley and St. Francis high school football teams are available for download on the Senate Majority Photowire at:  
<http://www.senate.michigan.gov/gop/photowire/Allen/Allen.htm>